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Barnstaple Rural District

Annual Report

— ON —

The Health of the Area

VITAL STATISTICS

SANITARY WORKS

HOUSING, ETC.

for the Year 1952

Gazette Printing Service, Bideford

BARNSTAPLE RURAL DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

ON

THE HEALTH OF THE AREA

VITAL STATISTICS

SANITARY WORKS

HOUSING, ETC.

for the Year 1952

By

Dr. F. J. H. MARTIN

(M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., D.P.H. Oxon.)

Medical Officer of Health

And

ARTHUR J. DENNIS

(C.R.S.I., A.I.A.S.)

Chief Sanitary Inspector

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The Health Department,

The Red House,

Castle Street,

Barnstaple,

August, 1953.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Barnstaple Rural District Council.

Mrs. Trebble and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you the Report upon the Public Health of the Barnstaple Rural District for the year 1952.

Your obedient Servant,

FRANK MARTIN,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Part Time Officer :

Medical Officer of Health: Dr. F. J. H. Martin, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., D.P.H. Oxon.

Whole Time Officers :

Building Surveyor and Engineer *Chief Sanitary Inspector*	A. J. Dennis, C.R.S.I., A.I.A.S.
Additional Sanitary Inspector :	F. A. Lethbridge, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Second Sanitary Inspector – –	R. West, Cert. R.S.I.
Assistant Architect – – –	C. D. Squire, A.I.A.S.
Draughtsman – – – – – –	N. Liddicoat
Clerks – – – –	Miss C. Hearn—March, 1952 Miss D. Paterson Miss J. Macrow Miss C. Vyner—August, 1952

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The chief occupations of the district are :—

1. Agriculture
2. Catering for Visitors
3. Market Gardening.

The locality may be regarded as purely non-industrial, and employment is on the whole steady.

1952

ANNUAL REPORT

Of the Medical Officer of Health for the Barnstaple Rural District

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	129,346
Population	23,030
Inhabited Houses	7,572
Rateable Value	132,316
Value of a Penny Rate	£536 5s. 4d.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate ..	167	163	330
Illegitimate ..	5	7	12
			342

Birth Rate per 1,000 Population 14.8

Still Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate ..	3	4	7
Illegitimate ..	0	0	0
			7

Death Rate per 1,000 Population 15.1

Deaths	Male	Female	Total
	155	167	322

Death Rate per 1,000 Population 13.9

Deaths from Puerperal Causes

Puerperal Fever	0
Other Maternal Causes	1

Below is appended a Table which shows the comparative figures for the Barnstaple Rural District and England and Wales.

Rate per 1,000 Population			Death Rate per 1,000	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Live Births	
	Live Births	Still Births		Deaths under 1 year	Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years
Barnstaple Rural Dist.	16.2	.30	10.9	17.5	0
England and Wales	15.3	.35	11.3	27.6	1.1

The local Birth and Death Rates are shown above corrected by the area comparability factor.

Deaths of Infants under 1 Year

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	5	1	6
Illegitimate	0	0	0
			—
			6

Rate per 1,000 Live Births 17.5

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	5	1	6
Illegitimate	0	0	0
			—
			6

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea under 2 years	0

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1952

	Males	Females
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	3	3
Tuberculosis (Non-Respiratory)	1	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	1
Malignant Neoplasm of Stomach	3	3
Acute Epidenic Parotitis	1	0
Malignant Neoplasm of Lung Bronchus ..	5	1
Malignant Neoplasm of Breast	1	6
Malignant Neoplasm of Uterus	0	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	17	18
Diabetes	0	2
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ..	14	50
Coronary Disease—Anjia	30	22
Hypertension with Heart Disease	3	2
Other Heart Diseases	26	37
Other Circulatory Diseases	6	6
Influenza	0	1
Pneumonia	1	2
Bronchitis	3	5
Ulcer of Duodenum	1	0
Nephritis	4	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	0
Pregnancy—Pulmonary Embolism.. ..	0	1
Congenital Malformation	2	2
Other Defined and Ill Defined Diseases ..	14	13
Motor Vehicle Accidents	5	0
All Other Accidents	9	8
Suicide	2	2
Homicide	1	0
	155	167

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Tuberculosis

Hawley Sanatorium, situated in the Borough of Barnstaple, has 28 beds.

Maternity Cases

The Devon County Council is continuing to act as they did in 1947, as agents for the Regional Hospital Board, until the Board has completed its own plans for the treatment of Maternity cases.

At the North Devon Infirmary there is a ward of 12 beds with a fully qualified staff available for cases of doubt or difficulty.

At Bicclescombe Maternity Home, Ilfracombe, there are 20 Maternity and 4 Ante-natal beds.

There are 4 beds at Braunton Nursing Home.

A General Practitioner Maternity Unit of 13 beds was opened at Highfield, Victoria Road, Barnstaple, on 1st March, 1952.

Isolation of Infectious Diseases

There is an Infectious Diseases Joint Isolation Hospital at Bideford, which serves Barnstaple as well as other Local Authorities in North Devon. Changes in 1952 have resulted in 20 beds being available in cubicles for infectious cases and 12 in a separate block for early Tuberculosis cases from North Devon.

Small Pox

The Small Pox Hospital to which any cases of Small Pox will be sent is Upton Pine Hospital, near Exeter. Special Ambulance Transport can be obtained by contacting the Isolation Hospital, Whipton, Exeter. Telephone 67158.

General

The North Devon Infirmary, situated in Barnstaple, serves the Area, and provides modern Medical and Surgical treatment for the residents of the district.

A ward at the Alexandra Hospital was set aside as an annexe to the male wards of the North Devon Infirmary, and post-operative and recovery patients are now transferred as soon as practicable.

A second ward is now in course of preparation and female cases will also be transferred.

There are 123 beds for the chronic sick at the Alexandra Hospital.

At Braunton Nursing Home there are 4 beds for sick persons.

Laboratory Facilities

The Main Laboratory is situated at 7, Dix's Field, Exeter, and Dr. Moore is the Director. It is completely installed with the necessary equipment for bacteriological examinations of all kinds. Its diagnostic and consultative services are available for all patients. Bacteriological examinations of drinking water and milk are also carried out.

There is also a Pathological Laboratory at the former Barnstaple and North Devon Dispensary building with a full-time Pathologist and Technical Staff to meet the needs of the whole North Devon Area. The Blood Bank has been transferred to this Laboratory.

Clinics and Treatment Centres

V.D. Clinic

This is held at the North Devon Infirmary Annexe.

Sessions :	Females	Males
Monday	4.0 p.m.	5.15 p.m.
Thursday	4.30 p.m.	5.45 p.m.

Chest Clinic

The Chest Clinic is held at the North Devon Infirmary.

Sessions :

Tuesdays	9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	Clinic and X-Ray Examinations
Thursdays	9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.	
Fridays	9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	A.P. Refills

Ambulance Services

Under section 27 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Local Health Authority (i.e. the Devon County Council) is responsible for the provision of an Ambulance Service, and the Devon Health Committee have arranged for this to be provided through the agency of the St. John Ambulance Association. The Brigade serves Barnstaple Borough and the District around, and the Headquarters are in Commercial Road, Barnstaple. The staff consists of 3 paid members (full time), 20 men volunteers, and 14 volunteer nurses. The Hospital car service, also under the

Devon County Council, is available upon application to the Hospital, and the Ambulance Service is empowered to hire cars in urgent cases when the Ambulance is not necessary.

Immunization against Diphtheria

During the year 208 children received primary injections ; 393 children received reinforcing injections.

Vaccination

During the year the following vaccinations were carried out :

Under 1 year	1-4 years	5-14 years	15 years and over
64	74	12	60

Professional Nursing in the Homes

There are 9 District Nurses in the area.

Home Helps Scheme

This scheme was started in March 1949 and is run by the W.V.S. for the Devon County Council. It covers Barnstaple Borough and the Rural Areas wherever transport is available, and the scheme is directed by Mrs. Hughes. There are now 44 Home Helps and 267 cases were dealt with in 1952. Any case recommended by a Doctor, Health Visitor or District Nurse is entitled to a Home Help. The Home Helps do any work in the house normally done by the housewife. Twenty aged people living by themselves are now being looked after by Home Helps who otherwise would have to go to hospital. During the year 1952 twenty-two maternity cases have been rendered assistance in their homes by the Home Helps. Three blind people also receive assistance from the Service. I am glad to note that the service is steadily growing and is much appreciated by all concerned.

Prevalence of Infectious Diseases

The following Tables give particulars of the Infectious Diseases notified during the year, together with the distribution of cases and the age groups.

Names of Diseases	*No. Notified*
Scarlet Fever	10
Whooping Cough	79
Sonne Dysentery	5
Poliomyelitis	10
Pneumonia	12
Paratyphoid	1
Measles	375
	492

Tuberculosis—New Cases

During the year 32 fresh cases of Tuberculosis were notified in accordance with the regulation.

Age Periods	*Pulmonary*		*Non-Pulmonary*	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
1 to 5 years ..	0	0	1	0
5 to 10 years ..	0	0	1	1
10 to 15 years ..	1	0	0	1
15 to 25 years ..	1	3	1	1
25 to 35 years ..	3	4	0	2
35 to 45 years ..	2	1	0	0
45 to 55 years ..	3	1	0	0
55 to 65 years ..	0	0	0	2
65 and over ..	2	0	0	1
Age unknown ..	0	0	0	0
Totals ..	12	9	3	8

Tuberculosis—Distribution of Cases

Atherington	2
Bishops Tawton	1
Bratton Fleming	1
Braunton	6
Brendon	1
Combe Martin	2
Fremington	3
Georgeham	3
Heanton Punchardon	1
Instow	4
Marwood	1
Mortehoe	4
Stoke Rivers	1
Westleigh	2
	32

Infectious Diseases—Age Periods

	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	*Age Un-known*	*Total*
Scarlet Fever			1	1	1	2	1	2		1				1									10
Whooping Cough		2	6	4	8	9	13	9	12	7	3	1	3									2	79
Sonne Dysentery		1		1	2		1																5
Poliomyelitis					1	1	1			1								1			1	4	10
Pneumonia								1												1		10	12
Paratyphoid																	1						1
Measles	9	11	32	33	39	56	69	38	30	22	6	6	3	6	2			1			1	11	375
Totals	9	14	39	39	51	68	85	50	42	31	9	7	6	7	2	–	1	2	–	1	2	27	492

Distribution of Infectious Diseases Cases Notified during 1952

	Measles	Whooping Cough	Scarlet Fever	Polio-myelitis	Para-typhoid	Pneumonia	Dysentery	Totals
ARLINGTON	1							1
ASHFORD	14							14
ATHERINGTON	1			1		1		3
BERRYNARBOR	3							3
BISHOPS TAWTON	4	1				2	1	8
BITTADON	1							1
BRATTON FLEMING	1	1		3				5
BRAUNTON	107						3	110
BRENDON								—
CHALLACOMBE						1		1
COMBE MARTIN			6	1				7
COUNTISBURY								—
EAST DOWN	3							3
FREMINGTON	95	1	2			1		99
GEORGEHAM	7			1				8
GOODLEIGH	8	1	1					10
HEANTON PUNCHARDON	17			2		4		23
HIGHBRAY	4							4
HORWOOD	1							1
INSTOW	4							4
KENTISBURY....	1							1
LANDKEY	20	1		1				22
LOXHORE		2						2
MARTINHOE								—
MARWOOD	24	1				1		26
MORTEHOE	5	65	1		1		1	73
NEWTON TRACEY	5							5
PARRACOMBE								—
PILTON WEST								—
SHIRWELL	1							1
STOKE RIVERS	3							3
SWIMBRIDGE	3			1		1		5
TAWSTOCK	41	6				1		48
TRENTISHOE								—
WEST DOWN	1							1
WESTLEIGH								—
Total	375	79	10	10	1	12	5	492

I desire to thank Mr. Marshall Wright and Mr. Dennis for their help to me.

Your obedient Servant,

F. J. H. MARTIN.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR, ENGINEER, AND BUILDING SURVEYOR

The Red House,
Castle Street,
Barnstaple.
August, 1953.

To the Chairman and Members of
The Barnstaple Rural District Council.

Mrs. Trebble and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my seventh Annual Report of Work carried out during 1952.

GENERAL

The area of your district is 129,346 acres with an estimated population of 23,030.

No appreciable change in the basic industries of the area have occurred during the year, but the establishment of some form of light industry would assist seasonal employment, but the geographical position of your District, so far distant from the industrial areas, precludes the possibility of any large scale development.

The holiday industry could cater for much larger numbers of visitors if the existing short season could be extended. During July and August large numbers of visitors have to be refused accommodation which is empty from April to June, when North Devon is at its best, for the holiday maker.

The authorised camping and caravan sites have on the whole been well conducted during the year under review, and owners have always shown their willingness to co-operate.

When the holiday season is at its peak, in the last week of July and the first fortnight of August, more caravans and tents are accommodated on some sites than can properly be dealt with. It is then that special attention has to be paid to the question of sewage and refuse disposal.

The question of sewage disposal in many villages is very urgent.

With the advent of piped water supplies, a public sewerage system is necessary in every village. It is unfortunate that the provision of sewerage systems cannot keep apace with the provision of piped water supplies.

The preparation of a sewerage scheme is a complex matter, especially in an area such as yours where adverse gradients are the rule rather than the exception. Until the gap between the arrival of the water and the provision of a sewerage system can be bridged, conditions which have prevailed in many villages will be worse, rather than better.

The provision of all the sewerage systems required in your area will impose a heavy financial burden on the ratepayers, and the maintenance of all the schemes will be a constant heavy expenditure.

Since 1946 the following schemes have been completed or are nearly completed.

Parish	*Cost or estimated cost*
Mortehoe (Woolacombe)	
Provision of tidal and sea outfall	Actual cost £59,828
Mortehoe (Woolacombe)	
Extension of sewer at Station Road.	
Georgeham and Croyde	
Provision of sewerage system, pumping station and sea outfall	£51,111.

Combe Martin

Provision of Ejector Station at Newberry Beach.

Fremington

Laying of sewers from Bickington to Fremington Pill	£9,634
Extension of existing outfall at Fremington to Fremington Pill	£3,826

West Down

Extension of sewer to Barton Lane	£7,117

In addition, minor extensions have been carried out to various Housing Sites.

Schemes are now being prepared as follows :—

	Estimated Cost
Fremington	
Provision of pumping station at Fremington Pill, rising mains to, and provision of sewage disposal works at East Yelland, branch sewers at Yelland and Hele Manor	£164,706
Instow	
Provision of pumping station, rising mains and branch sewers to discharge into works at East Yelland	£12,000
Braunton	
A combined scheme to sewer Braunton, Knowle, Saunton, Wrafton, Heanton, Chivenor and R.A.F. Station, Chivenor. This will abate the existing appalling condition at Vellator Pill and Saunton, provide a need long overdue in the smaller hamlets and also remove the existing R.A.F. Station discharge into the River Taw	£100,000

Bishops Tawton

Provision of a sewerage system for the village. £31,000

Marwood

Provision of sewerage system at Prixford £2,200

The North Devon Water Board have made steady progress with the provision of piped water supplies. Since the formation of the Board, new or improved supplies have been provided to the following places :—

Georgeham, Darracott and Croyde.
Combe Martin, Berrynarbor and Sterridge Valley.
Newton Tracey, Horwood, Lovacott, Eastleigh and Westleigh.
Langridge Ford, Atherington, Umberleigh.
Landkey and Swimbridge.
Shirwell.
Wrafton and Heanton Punchardon.
Prixford, Guineaford and Kingsheanton.
St. John's Chapel, Eastacombe, Tawstock and Roundswell.

Steady progress has been maintained with your Housing Programme. 44 Houses were completed, and at the end of the year 73 were in hand. 63 licences were issued for the erection of private houses.

The disastrous floods of August imposed a heavy strain on my department. All the staff did their utmost to assist in the tabulation of damage, first aid and later permanent repairs, welfare and a host of other duties requiring attention following this major catastrophe.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The department is now collecting refuse as follows :—

Parish	*Period*
Ashford	Monthly
Atherington	Monthly
Berrynarbor	Fortnightly

Bittadon	Once Every Three Months
Bratton Fleming	Monthly
Braunton (Village)	Weekly
Braunton (Nethercott, Upcott, Lobb, Boode, Winsham)	Monthly
Brendon	Monthly
Combe Martin	Winter–Weekly
Combe Martin	Summer–Twice Weekly
East Down	Every Three Months
Fremington	Fortnightly
Georgeham and Croyde	Fortnightly
Goodleigh	Monthly
Heanton Punchardon	Fortnightly
High Bray	Monthly
Horwood	Monthly
Kentisbury	Monthly
Landkey	Monthly
Loxhore	Every Three Months
Martinhoe	Monthly
Marwood Hamlets	Every Three Months
Mortehoe and Woolacombe	Winter–Weekly
Mortehoe and Woolacombe ..	Summer–Twice Weekly
Newton Tracey	Monthly
Parracombe	Monthly
Shirwell	Every Two Months
Tawstock (Hele Manor)	Fortnightly
Tawstock (Village and Hamlets)	Monthly
West Down	Monthly

Refuse is also collected during the Summer months from Saunton Sands Hotel, Army Camps, N.A.L.G.O. Holiday Centre at Croyde, and camping sites at Croyde. These collections are in addition to the normal Parish collections, and are charged for as Trade Refuse.

Private Contractors collect the refuse in the undermentioned Parishes :—

Bishops Tawton	Village Fortnightly.	Hamlets Quarterly
Instow..		Twice Weekly
Westleigh		Every Two Months

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

The total number of Inspections, Re-visits and Interviews during the year was 4,037. Made up as follows :—

Visits re Infectious Diseases	28
Water Supplies	29
Sewers	536
Number of Drains Inspected and Tested	271
Housing Repairs	441
Housing Act Inspections	10
Inspections and Surveys in connection with the Council's New Housing Programme	810
Building Licence Inspections, Planning and re-visits inder the control of Civil Building Defence Regulations 56A	256
Interviews in connection with the General Council's New Housing Programme	665
Inspection of Food Premises	55
Ice Cream Premises	21
Milk Retailers	10
Public Cleansing	18
Inspections under the Petroleum Acts	4
Public Health Act Inspections, Nuisances, etc. ..	252
Bakehouses	2
Rodent Control	7
Factories, Workplaces, Shops	18
Public Conveniences..	72
Tents, Vans, Sheds and Camping Sites	53
Schools	8
Visits to Refuse Tips	28
Public Houses	5
Number of Council and Committee Meetings attended	146
Number of Complaints received during the Year ..	211
Nuisances reported to the Council..	19
Inspections re Flood Disaster	61
Inspections re Civil Defence	1

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

You dispensed with the services of your two Rodent Operators during the year, but part time operators continued to give regular attention to the sewers and refuse tips.

Advice was given to private householders where necessary.

Disposal of Carcases deposited on Foreshore.

Animal carcases are still being deposited around the foreshore from time to time. Arrangements have to be made for disposal, usually by burial in lime on the foreshore.

Total Notices (Served as under).

Public Health Act, 1936	7
Housing Acts	–

Swimming Pools

The only Swimming Pool in the district is situated on the seashore and is privately owned. The pool is covered by every tide.

Offensive Trades

Byelaws are in operation for the control of Offensive Trades. There are two in the district :—

1. Tannery at Swimbridge.
2. Gut Scraping Premises at Pilton West.

Underground Sleeping Rooms

There is no need for Regulations in this area in respect of underground sleeping rooms.

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Byelaws are in force relating to the above.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

Inspections are made of Food Premises throughout the district from time to time and improvements have been called for where necessary. There has been no need for Statutory action during the year.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

During the year 1952 the undermentioned articles of Food were voluntarily surrendered as being unfit for human consumption :—

Pork	1lb. 8oz.
Luncheon Meat	19lb. 15oz.
Beef	31lb.
Ham	95lb.
Lamb	50lb. 8oz.
Bloaters	3 stone
Pears	16ozs.
Tomatoes (tinned)	6lb. 9oz.
Pineapple	1lb. 4oz.
Plums	20lb. 14oz.
Prunes	10lb. 6oz.
Apple and Cherry	14lb.
Apricot	1lb. 8oz.
Apples	10lb. 13oz.
Vegetables (tinned)	6lb. 5oz.
Milk (tinned)	2 tins
Currants	8lb.
Sultanas	16lb.
Sugar	168lb.
Cheese	72lb.
Margarine	144lb.
Lard	56lb.
Flour	75lb.
Mustard	18 tins
Cocoa	6lb.
Crisps	18 packets
Rice	18lb.
Groats	16lb.
Sponge Mixture	24 packets
Tea	11lb.
Salt	69 Packets
Ground Ginger	17 packets
Mixed Spice	19 packets
Pudding Spice	18 packets

Arrowroot	12 packets
Pepper	27 packets
Peel	12 packets
Biscuits	3 tins
Jam	2lb.
Mars Bars	24 bars
Cocoanut	24 bars
Toffees	21lb.
Almonds	29 packets
Bullseyes	7lb.
Liquorice Allsorts	2lb.
Bonbons	2lb.

Ice Cream

Regular inspections of Ice cream premises were carried out. There was no need for Statutory action during the year.

Water

24 Water Samples were taken, 10 of which proved satisfactory. Advice was given in all cases of unsatisfactory results in an endeavour to effect an improvement.

Farm Water Supplies

Several Farm Water Supplies were investigated at the request of the Agricultural Executive Committee during the year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937—PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provision as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector).

Premises (1)	*M/c line No.* (2)	*Number on Register* (3)	*Number of*			*M/c line No.* (7)
			Inspections (4)	*Written Notices* (5)	*Occupiers Prosecuted* (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	65	18	3	Nil	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	3
Total		67	18	3	Nil	

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	*M/c line No.* (2)	*Number of cases in which defects were found*				*Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted* (7)	*M/c line No.* (8)
		Found (3)	*Remedied* (4)	*Referred* *To H.M. Inspector* (5)	*Referred* *By H.M. Inspector* (6)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	2	2				4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5						5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..	6						6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7						7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..	8	1	1				8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)							
(*a*) Insufficient	9						9
(*b*) Unsuitable or defective ..	10	3	3		2		10
(*c*) Not separate for sexes	11						11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12						12
Total	60	6	6	Nil	2	Nil	60

BUILDING SURVEYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Red House,
Castle Street,
Barnstaple.
August, 1953.

To the Chairman and Members of
The Barnstaple Rural District Council.

Mrs. Trebble and Gentlemen,

I beg to present the following Report on the activities of the Building Surveyor's Department during the year 1952.

As will be seen from the Summary of Inspections in the Sanitary Inspector's Report, 665 interviews were given in connection with your Housing Programme. The greater part of this work fell upon the staff of this department, as also did the mass of records and reports that have to be made to various Government Departments from time to time.

BUILDING LICENCES 1952

Housing Repairs	
No. of Licences granted	11
Total Cost	£3,872
Re-instatement	
No. of Licences granted	5
Total cost	£3,567
Conversions, Adaptations and Additions	
No. of Licences granted	31
No. of additional family units provided ..	10
Total cost	£14,108
New Dwellings	
No. of Licences granted (includes 4 temporary Dwellings)	63
Total cost	£129,101

POST-WAR HOUSING PROGRAMME

Parish	*Houses completed up to Dec. 31st, 1952*	*Houses under construction at Dec. 1952 but not completed*
Atherington ..	—	4
Berrynarbor ..	8	—
Bishop's Tawton	12	—
Bratton Fleming	8	—
Braunton ..	84	18
Challacombe ..	—	4
Combe Martin ..	37	—
Fremington ..	62	17
Georgeham ..	8	—
Heanton Punchardon	16	—
Highbray ..	—	4
Instow	6	4
Kentisbury ..	6	—
Landkey	4	14
Martinhoe ..	4	—
Marwood ..	4	—
Mortehoe ..	18	—
Newton Tracey ..	—	8
Parracombe ..	8	—
Shirwell	10	—
Swimbridge ..	12	—
West Down ..	8	—
Westleigh ..	8	—
	323	73

HOUSING APPLICATIONS

The following Table gives the number of applicants on each Parish Housing List as at 31st December, 1952.

As a number of applicants are recorded on more than one Parish List, it is difficult to assess the true position. I would consider that approximately 75 per cent. of the total actually are in need of accommodation.

The position is made more difficult by the fact that a number of applicants, in addition to registering in more than one parish also register with several Local Authorities.

Parish	*No. of Applicants*
Arlington	—
Ashford	2
Atherington	5
Berrynarbor	7
Bishop's Tawton	26
Bittadon	—
Bratton Fleming	6
Braunton	108
Brendon	1
Challacombe	5
Combe Martin	26
Countisbury	1
East Down	—
Fremington	123
Georgeham	17
Goodleigh	6
Heanton Punchardon	10
High Bray	9
Horwood	—
Instow	35
Kentisbury	5
Landkey	52
Loxhore	—
Martinhoe	—
Marwood	5
Mortehoe	11
Newton Tracey	4
Parracombe	2
Pilton West	—
Shirwell	2
Stoke Rivers	—
Swimbridge	8
Tawstock	—
West Down	10
Westleigh	3
	489

PLANS

252 applications out of a total of approximately 650 submitted by the Local Authorities in the North Devon Divisional Planning area of the Devon County Council were in respect of schemes in your area.

Details of Plans Submitted

No. approved under Bye-laws	.. ..	198
No. disapproved under Byelaws	.. ..	3
No. approved under Town Planning	..	195
No. disapproved under Town Planning	..	18
No decision given under Town Planning	..	10
No. withdrawn after formal submission	..	4

I wish to record my thanks to each member of the Council, the Clerk, Medical Officer, and to all members of the Department for their support and consideration during the past year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR J. DENNIS.